5

10

ARQ IN A POINT TO MULTIPOINT NETWORK ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The systems and methods for incorporating an automatic retransmission mechanism into a point to multipoint network MAC layer that does not already incorporate retransmission are provided by virtue of one embodiment of the present invention. For example, the DOCSIS MAC layer protocol developed for data over cable networks may be modified to incorporate an automatic retransmission mechanism. This allows DOCSIS to be applied more effectively to communication channels such as the wireless communication channel.